

The BEEHIVE

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Still Working, Still Serving

Local Bishop Fights
Stage 4 Cancer with
Faith, Family



Photo by Jen Garbett

Bishop Amos Abplanalp of the Magma Ranch Ward, San Tan Stake, and his wife of 19 years, Hillary, find strength and comfort in each other and in the Savior during their fight

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Service & Miracles

Not even cancer can stop one faithful bishop from serving.



Photo by Jen Garbett

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Bishop Fighting Cancer Focuses on SERVICE & LITTLE MIRACLES

Bishop Amos Abplanalp fights a stage 4 cancer diagnosis with the help of his children, who offer comfort in the form of cuddles, company and music.

Photo by Jen Garbett

On a Saturday afternoon, the Abplanalp kids are sprawled all over the couches in an East Valley hospital waiting room. Their faces are stoic, even a little guarded.

Like every Saturday, they've come equipped—with books to pass the time, earbuds to drown out the beeping and paging, snacks to stave off the hunger of delayed meals—and, most importantly, with a steadfast faith that

their father will win the fight of his life against colon cancer.

As a bishop of only three months, Amos Abplanalp had barely enough time to adjust to his new calling when the diagnosis came: a CT scan for

stomach pains in April 2016 revealed stage 4 colon cancer.

He immediately called his stake president. "Don't release me," he begged San Tan Stake President

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Bishop Fights Cancer Continued from pg. 3

Larry Michael Ray. "God knew I had cancer when he called me," Bishop Abplanalp said.

President Ray's response was immediate: "You're going to have to do better than that to get released," he joked.

And so, in spite of a demanding full-time job as a psychologist in Arizona's prison system, in spite of rounds of chemo, surgeries and countless hospital visits, Amos Abplanalp continues to do the work he loves by serving as the bishop of the Magma Ranch Ward.

Somehow, in ways that they don't even truly have the words to verbalize yet, his children understand that kind of commitment. 10-year-old Kirra says, "What I love about Daddy is that he's always putting other people before him."

Her younger sister Ruth chimes in: "There's a reason he's been put through this. We have faith," the 9-year-old says, looking around at her siblings.

Even with faith, it's a heavy load for the children, but they are growing stronger through sacrifice. 15-year-old Porter picked up cooking when his father had to switch to a vegan diet after a surgery that resulted in an ostomy. ("Everyone should have to be

vegan for a week," he grumbles, "so they really understand what flavor is.") 12-year-old Evie Clair, a musician and songwriter, is putting her burgeoning career on hold after just breaking into the business. Kirra and Ruth have to leave early from stake activity days. 7-year-old Blakely's eyes fill with tears. In a quavering voice, she voices what everyone's been feeling: "I just miss my Daddy. He's not home a lot."

Hillary Abplanalp, his wife of 19 years, nods. "They're home alone a lot."

Dealing with a major illness is a constant juggling act for the busy family. Putting her music lessons aside and cutting back her freelance web designing a bit, Sister Abplanalp has learned to reprioritize in the wake of her husband's illness.

"I had to put things in the right order. I don't give anyone else my time," she says. "I'm learning how to not work—how to say no." All of her energy now goes toward taking care of her family and fulfilling her callings and visiting teaching assignments. "I never say 'no' to the sister missionaries," she jokes. "That's my secret. Helping teach lessons grounds me back to what's important and gives me perspective."

Above all, she finds comfort in serving. A cancer diagnosis in the family might be enough to shake anyone's faith, but Sister Abplanalp finds she has renewed focus: "The more we serve, the more we help, the more things end up the way they're supposed to be."

And the more they serve, the more the Abplanalps find themselves on the receiving end of service. Endless rounds of meals, childcare, gas cards, seminary carpools, even care packages from families they've never even met—the Abplanalps are continuously humbled and hallowed by the amount of service they receive from friends and strangers alike.

"People have stepped up," Bishop

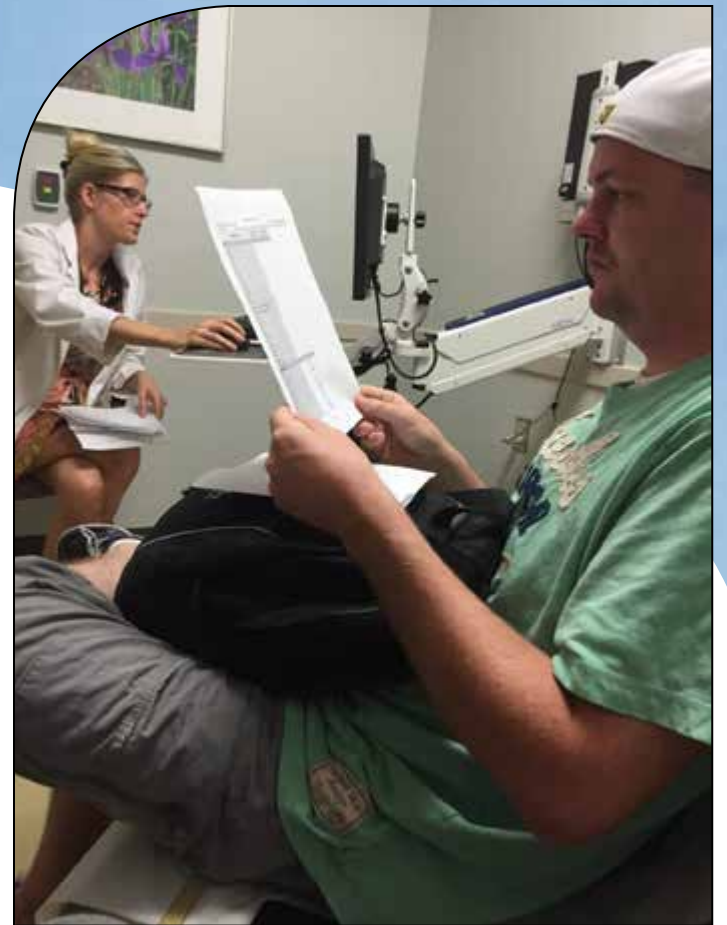


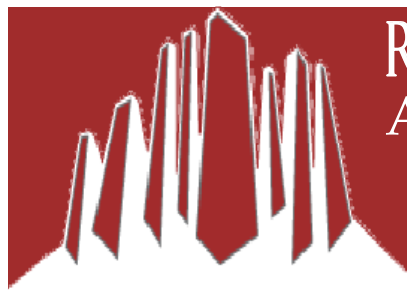
Photo courtesy of Hillary Abplanalp

Leanne Kocemba, FNP, reviews test results with Amos Abplanalp during his cancer treatment.

Abplanalp says. "I am certainly blessed."

Music is another source of joy to the family. The children often sing to Amos, who tires easily after rounds of chemo. "Where Can I Turn for Peace?" and Billy Joel's "Lullabye (Goodnight,

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Bishop Fighting Cancer
Continued from pg. 5

My Angel)” are among his favorites.

While all the Abplanalps are musical, oldest Abplanalp daughter Evie Clair in particular is using those gifts to help support her father. Evie is no stranger to the music business; she has recorded with Rob Gardner for the Cokeville Miracle sound track, participated in the 2015 #ASaviorIsBorn campaign sponsored by Mormon.org,

and opened for the celebrated Dutton family. She now has a popular YouTube channel and has earned some degree of fame through regional talent competitions and performances as well as songs on the Once I Was a Beehive soundtrack. She recently teamed up with fellow LDS singer and classical crossover phenom Spencer Jones of Cinematic Pop. The pair created a tribute video this past July, recording Survivor’s 80s hit “Eye of the Tiger” in honor of her father’s cancer fight.



Photo courtesy of Hillary Abplanalp

Evie Clair, singer, songwriter and eldest Abplanalp daughter, records a tribute cover of Survivor’s “Eye of the Tiger” with Spencer Jones of Cinematic Pop.

“He was a wrestler in high school,” Evie explains. “He listened to that song to get pumped up for matches.”

In the touching tribute, her emotions are palpable as she describes her father Amos’s fight and the survival rate given to her father by his doctors earlier this year. “We know that he’s going to be okay. He’s going to win this fight,” she affirms through her tears.

Evie is joined at the end of the video by the Piano Gal, Sara Arkell, violinist Rob Landes, Hailey and Mila Smith, actors in Once I Was a Beehive, and Bored Shorts’ Richard Sharrah to celebrate and support Bishop Abplanalp. The YouTube video links to the family’s GoFundMe campaign, which has raised over half of its \$25,000 goal.

The Abplanalps choose to dwell on that, on the giving and the prayers and the love they’ve received from others, instead of asking the obvious questions: “Why me? Why us?”

“Amos is amazing,” smiles Sister Abplanalp. “It’s like normal life wasn’t enough of a challenge. I think this is what he needs. He’s an Idaho farm boy. He’s tough.”

Bishop Abplanalp just deflects the question altogether. “All of this,” he says, gesturing around him, “it’s not about me. We focus on the little miracles.” Through their trials, the Abplanalps have found themselves growing ever closer to their Savior.

“Just before I found out [about the cancer],” he says, “I gave a talk about the Atonement.” The knowledge he gained preparing for that talk helps keep him going. “We can learn from the Savior,” Bishop Abplanalp says. “Even when we suffer, we can still fulfill our role.”

This, Bishop Abplanalp insists, is what the Atonement is about—and he sees his cancer fight as part of that personal connection with Christ. “He knows me. There is nothing that He doesn’t understand. Not just spiritual, but very much our physical needs. He never forgets, and He knows us individually, forever and ever.”

You can follow the Abplanalp family’s journey on their Team Amos blog at www.teamamos.com. Donations to the family can be made on the family’s GoFundMe website: <https://www.gofundme.com/teamamos>.



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Four New Mission Presidencies

Begin Service in Arizona Missions

By Cecily Markland Condie
The Beehive

In four of the six Arizona missions, new mission presidencies and their wives were called earlier this year and began their service July 31.

Called as president of the Arizona Gilbert Mission Richard William Wheeler, 61, and his wife Linda, come to Arizona from Ephraim, Utah, where they were members of the Ephraim 8th Ward, Ephraim Utah Stake.

"We have honestly loved every day of these first weeks of our service here in the Gilbert Mission," says President Wheeler. "It is a privilege and honor to have been called to this part of the world."

At the time of their call, President Wheeler was serving as an Area Seventy. He has also served as stake president, as a counselor in a stake presidency and as a bishop. President Wheeler, who formerly worked as vice president and professor of Snow College, served as a young missionary in the Florida Tallahassee Mission.



Photo courtesy Richard W. Wheeler

As of July 31, Richard W. Wheeler, assumed his duties as Mission President of the Arizona Gilbert Mission, where he is serving with this wife, Linda.

Sister Wheeler is a former stake Relief Society president and ward Young Women and Primary president. She also served as a counselor in a ward Relief Society, Young Women, and Primary presidency. She also served as

a temple worker. The Wheelers have six children.

President and Sister Wheeler love working with the Church members and the missionaries serving in this area.

"The incredible missionaries and members of the area have embraced us in a way that has touched and changed our hearts forever. We are so impressed with the devotion of the missionaries to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and their willingness to sacrifice this portion of their lives to share His message of peace and happiness," says President Wheeler. "We are committed to help share this message with all those who are willing to 'come unto Him.' We simply feel blessed to be part of this great work."

It would seem Marc Burton Robinson, 57, was born into missionary work. Indeed, the new president of the Arizona Scottsdale Mission, President Robinson was born in the mission field in Helsinki, Finland, while his dad,



Photo courtesy Marc Robinson

President Marc Robinson, who is serving with his wife, Leean, was recently called to preside over the Arizona Scottsdale Mission.

Phileon Robinson, Jr., was serving as the mission president.

Having served in the California Oakland Mission as a young man, he later was a stake mission president, and

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*Life brings change, but
families are forever*



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he and his wife, Llean, were serving together as Pathway program missionaries when they received their call to Arizona.

President Robinson has also served as a stake president, bishop, ward Young Men president and Sunday School teacher.

Sister Robinson formerly served as a counselor in the stake Young Women presidency, as ward Relief Society and Primary president, Relief Society teacher and ward choir director. The Robinsons are from the Brookside Ward, Stockton California Stake, and they have six children.

While his love for missionary work runs deep, President Robinson says every member can feel the same. "It's hard to be a member of this Church and not love missionary work," he says.

"Growing up in a family where the gospel is part of everything we did, the gospel was a way of life," he says. "I didn't fully realize what kind of influence the gospel had in my life until I was older."

Among the meetings and mission farewells and the variety of everyday activities, he developed a "depth of conversion" he now knows he can rely on.

He says members can be missionaries through "Christian living," and by extending invitations and "doing the



Photo courtesy Lonny E. Townsend

The new Mesa Arizona Mission President is Lonny E. Townsend, who is serving with his wife, Lori.

type of things that open doors to missionaries."

The new president of the Mesa Arizona Mission, Lonny E. Townsend, 59, agrees.

"We simply need to get to know people and bring up gospel topics as we talk. We need to open our mouths and talk to people," President Townsend says.

He adds that this is part of the promise we made at baptism.

"We as members covenant when we are baptized to stand as witnesses of Christ and to think of missionary work

as our responsibility. The full-time missionaries are here to help us keep that covenant."

President Townsend and his wife, Lori, are from the Mount Erie Ward, Mount Vernon Washington Stake. They have five children.

He formerly served as a bishop, high counselor, counselor in a stake presidency and a bishopric, and as an MTC branch president. As a young elder, President Townsend served in the Pennsylvania Philadelphia Mission. Sister Townsend served with her husband in an MTC branch. She has also served as ward Young Women presidency counselor and as a seminary teacher.

The new president of the Arizona Tempe Mission, Spencer Christensen, 53, and his wife, Carolyn, are from the Rolling Hills Ward, Centerville Utah Canyon View Stake. President Christensen, the owner of Mr. Mac clothing stores, was a missionary in the Canada Toronto Mission as a young elder. President Christensen formerly served as a stake presidency counselor, a bishop and bishopric counselor, as a high counselor and ward Young Men president.

Sister Christensen was serving as a Sunday School teacher when the Christensens received the couple received their mission call. Formerly, she was a

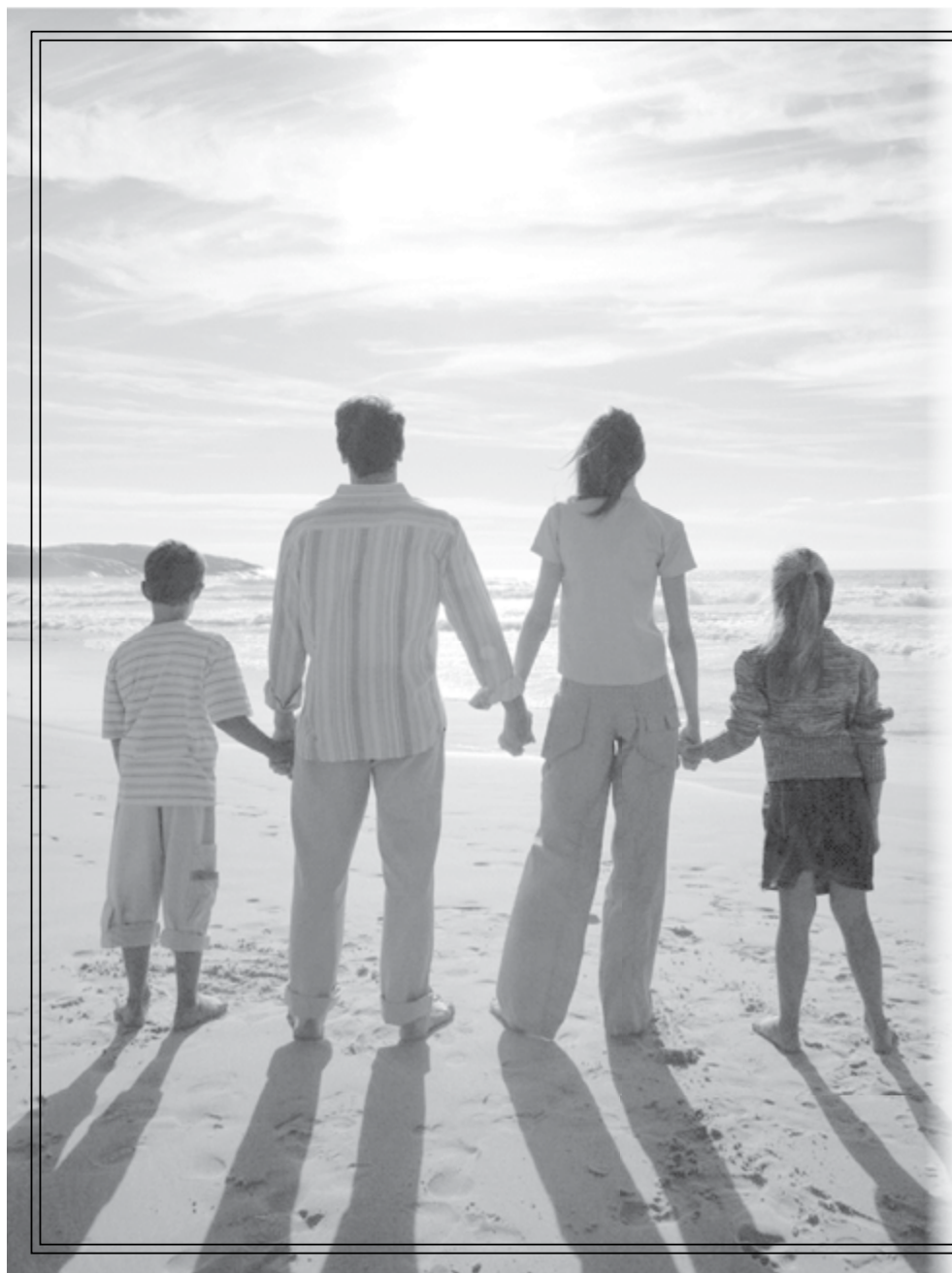


Photo courtesy Spencer Christensen

Now serving as the Arizona Tempe Mission President is Spencer Christensen, 53, who is serving with his wife, Carolyn.

counselor in a stake Young Women and Primary presidency, a counselor in a ward Relief Society and Primary presidency. She was also a Relief Society compassionate service coordinator and Young Women adviser.

President Christensen echoes the sentiments of the other three new Arizona mission presidents, saying he and his wife have already found a great deal of enjoyment serving in Arizona. "It is wonderful to work with such dedicated and consecrated missionaries and members," he says.



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BRICK'EM YOUNG

By Merry Gordon
The Beehive

Toy Brick Temple Models Let Kids Build the Kingdom—*Literally!*

Faithful LDS parents raise their children to be “builders of the kingdom”—a message that Suzanne and Tim Calton and their four children take to heart.

“We live in China, where we don’t have temples. So every time we visited a temple outside of

China, we always collected a postcard of that temple and taped it to the wall in our China home,” Sister Suzanne Calton says. Postcards turned to hand-drawn pictures, pictures led to models made from toy blocks, and it wasn’t long before the Caltons came up with an idea to make building the kingdom personal—and fun.

The Caltons are the founders of Brick’em Young, a toy block company that produces temple building sets. Similar to (and compatible with) Lego blocks, the Caltons’ block sets enable customers to construct models of LDS temples.

Temple sets available include Salt Lake (small and large), Nauvoo, Washington, D.C., San Diego and Provo City Center. A separate Angel Moroni figurine is also available for purchase, and bride and groom figurines are forthcoming. Sets range from roughly 500 to 1700 bricks. Fun facts about the temple’s construction and a building FAQ come with each set, and videos

and free downloadable instructions on the website help guide would-be architects through the building process. Completed temples range in height from 8” to nearly 14” and can be completed in 1-6 hours, depending on the model. Several pieces in the sets are custom-made, including spires and windows.

“The manufacturing process is quite extensive. It requires digital software and trial and error to make sure each custom piece adds to the value of the look,” says Sister Calton. The Salt Lake Temple roof was especially challenging, she notes. “But that’s the fun part of what we do!”

That process begins with a poll to determine the temple customers would like to see built next.

“Everyone feels a connection to their ‘own’ temple,” Sister Calton says. Currently leading the pack on their website poll is the Bountiful Temple, followed closely by Logan.

While originally conceived as a product for children, Brick’em Young’s temple sets have also found fans in older consumers worldwide. On the company’s “Meet Our Builders” page, young single adults in Mexico relate building the small Salt Lake model on a date, and a couple from

Africa tell of how they built a temple set while making preparations to be sealed. Brick’em Young builders, its founders are proud to report, have sent in photos from “every livable continent

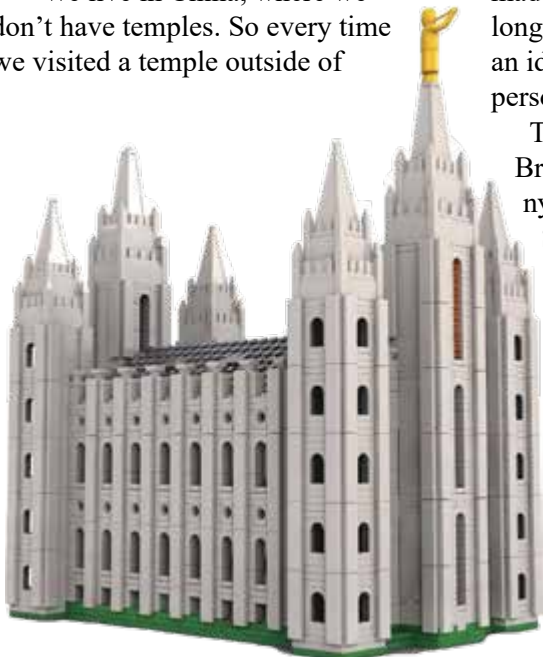


Photo courtesy of Tim Calton

The Salt Lake Temple model features 1,725 pieces and features custom bricks. Most builders will take between 4-6 hours to construct it.

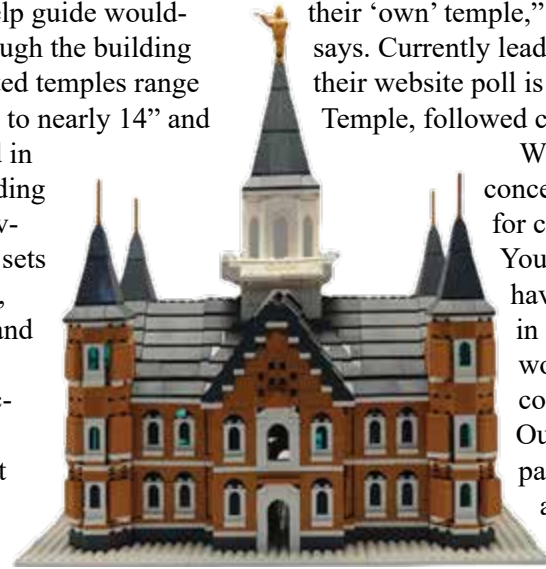


Photo courtesy of Tim Calton

The Provo City Center Temple model is among the newest of Brick’em Young offerings.

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Beehive Book Nook

From whodunits to historical fiction and self-help to sci-fi, The Beehive will take you cover to cover through some of the best new releases by LDS and local authors.

Arizona Author Janette Rallison Wins Amazon's Kindle Scout Award

LDS author Janette Rallison, also known as CJ Hill, says she writes books because writing is much more fun than cleaning bathrooms. Her avoidance of housework has led her to writing 24 novels that have sold over 1,000,000 print copies and have been on many reading lists.

Rallison says her books are "Fantasy, sci-fi, and romantic comedy because hey, there is enough angst in real life, but there's a drastic shortage of humor, romance and hot guys who fight dragons."

Her new book, *The Girl Who Heard Demons* (Kindle Press, 2016), was honored recently by Amazon's Kindle Scout for receiving the most votes. Rallison fans know she has a great, some-



Arizona author Janette Rallison

times quirky sense of humor which she uses in all of her books. She also knows how to spin a good yarn.

The book blurb reads,

"When [Adelle, the main character] overhears supernatural voices celebrating the impending death of the school quarterback, Levi Anderson, she knows she has to do something to prevent it. However, the demons aren't the ones plotting; they're just celebrating the chaos, and Adelle must contend with earthly forces as well if she wants to preserve Levi's life.

Handsome, popular Levi doesn't appreciate Adelle's self-appointed role of guardian angel. As Adelle battles to keep him safe, she'll have to protect her heart, too. Can she do both?"

The book is considered a teen and young adult romance and paranormal fantasy. Rallison says the book also includes religion.

Rallison lives in Arizona with her husband, kids and "enough cats to classify her as eccentric."

To learn more about Janette Rallison, see her website, JanetteRallison.com.

The Girl Who Heard Demons, another award winning book by LDS Author, Janette Rallison.



Brick'em Young
Continued from pg. 9

in the world."

The Caltons love the response from builders worldwide.

"It's a sincere pleasure to get feedback of personal stories from our builders," Sister Calton says. "Some families play conference in the back-ground while they build. Some use the kit to bond grandparents to kids in something meaningful. We love that once the temple is built, it goes on display as a reminder of a fun family bonding moment."

Sister Calton understands the importance of family. She considers herself a "momtrepreneur," a business role she sees as compatible with her primary focus of being a wife and a mother.

"You have to do what invigorates your soul personally, while balancing your first priority as a mother. I believe that being a mom makes me more concise as an entrepreneur because my time is limited and our family priorities are uncompromising," she says.

The Caltons hope to see Brick'em Young expand in the future, perhaps producing more of the smaller temples: "We hope to act upon the direction our builders are taking us—building more and more temple sets for them," says Sister Calton.

Visit <https://brickemyoung.com/> to browse Brick'em Young's temple sets and order a model.



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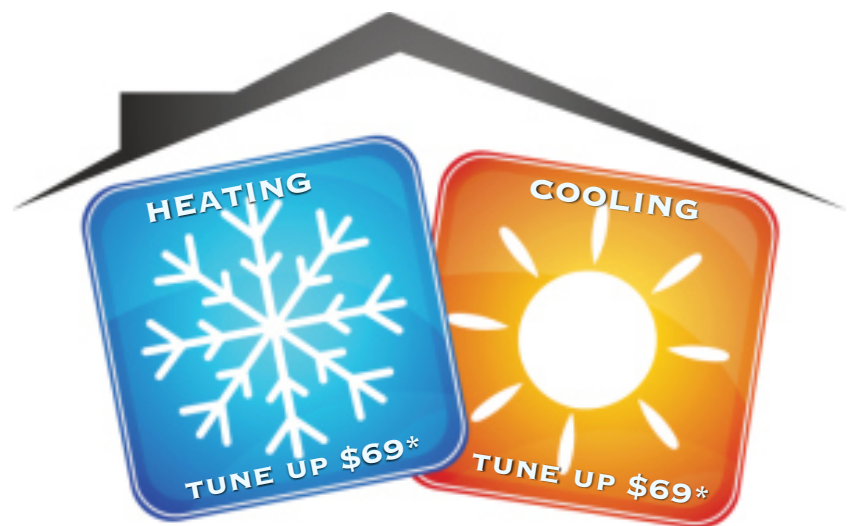
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COOKING WITH the BEEHIVE

A Passion for Pumpkin!

By Diane Gordon
The Beehive

Let's face it - Americans are passionate about pumpkins! From Plymouth colony to Washington Irving's Sleepy Hollow, to Cinderella's coach and even pumpkin-flavored lip gloss - our largest winter squash has rolled its way into literature, art, culture and most importantly, our taste buds! The carved pumpkin we know as a Hallow-

een icon only dates from the mid-1800s, but archaeological evidence shows they've been around as a food source over 7000 years. The hardy pumpkin is a great source of Vitamin A and is versatile in cooking—especially in favorite treats.

Even in Arizona where autumn leaves don't drop until February, we can't resist the aroma of delicious

pumpkin goodies in the fall. My pumpkin square recipe has been thoroughly vetted by family and friends as *the best* treat of the season. For those who like a little lighter fair, enjoy my quick and refreshing pumpkin smoothie recipe. Roll on, Great Pumpkin!

Mama Gordon's Spiced Pumpkin Squares

2 cups sugar	2 teaspoons baking powder
2/3 cup oil	1 teaspoon soda
4 large eggs	½ teaspoon salt
1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin	½ teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon vanilla	1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
2 cups flour	dash of ground cloves

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Blend liquid ingredients thoroughly. Add dry ingredients and mix well. Lightly grease and flour 11x17 jelly roll pan. Pour batter in and spread evenly. Bake 25 min in center of oven. Cool thoroughly, then frost with cream cheese frosting. Garnish with Candy Corn or Mallow Pumpkins. Cut into 2" squares and serve.

Homemade Cream Cheese Frosting:

Soften 8 oz. cream cheese. Add 16 oz. powdered sugar, 1 cube margarine and 2 teaspoons vanilla. Blend well and chill slightly before spreading. (Yes, you can also use ready-made cream cheese frosting, but homemade is always preferable!)

Pumpkin-Eater Smoothie

(The kids will love this light & tasty drink!)

1 can (15oz) pumpkin puree
3 generous scoops of vanilla frozen yogurt
1 ½ cups almond milk
½ cup fresh or canned pineapple tidbits (drained)
½ teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
½ teaspoon cinnamon
dash of allspice
dash of ground cloves
2 cups of ice

Blend until smooth. Pour into chilled mugs or glasses. Makes 3-4 servings. Enjoy!



Photo by Diane Gordon

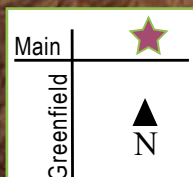
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New Book by Mesa Scriptorian Helps Others Understand **SYMBOLS OF THE TEMPLE**



Photo by Brandt Photography

First-time book author, Amy Hardison shares her love for the temple and for the scriptures to help others understand the symbols of the temple.

By Cecily Markland Condie
The Beehive

Driven by a passion for the scriptures and a serious pursuit of gospel study, Amy Hardison, of the Ridge Ward, Lehi Stake, gathered information about the temple and its symbolism for more than 30 years.

From that, the Mesa mother of four had the makings for a series of lessons.

"When our daughter was getting ready to go through the temple, I put together some classes for her," Amy said. Then, over the years, "I used those lessons with my other kids and shared them with nieces, nephews and other family members."

Seeing that the lessons she developed made a difference for people she cared about, and encouraged by her husband Steve, Amy took the next step, compiling the wealth of information about the temple into a book.

"While writing the book, I kept thinking, 'How do I take things that have been so helpful for people I loved, and share them with others?'" Amy says.

Her book, titled *Understanding the Symbols, Covenants, and Ordinances of the Temple* and recently published by Covenant Communications "outlines the significance of temple design, covenants, clothing, names and more as a means of helping Latter-day Saints better comprehend the sacred nature of the house of the Lord."

Her writing draws on her own experience of delving into the scriptures as well as what she has gleaned from "caring about the context." She has studied ancient Hebrew and the works of the "Ancient World, the writings of LDS scholar Hugh Nibley and other intellectual publications, including the Anchor Bible Series."

Amy says an understanding of the symbols of the temple is important.

"We can have an amazing experience in the temple as we feel the spirit and receive personal revelation, but when we add understanding, it makes the experi-

Continued on pg. 13



Temple Symbols Book
Continued from pg. 12

ence that much richer,” Amy says.

The book includes chapters on the symbolism of the physical temple, of the temple drama, and of the covenants and ordinances of the temple.

Amy believes one reason the response has been so positive is that the book, while “dense with information” is “extremely readable.”

“One of the things I think I can do is to take complicated information and explain it so it’s understandable and accessible. I like being able to do that.”

“I think the glossary of symbols is really valuable as well,” Amy says.

In addition to finding ways to organize and clearly state the information, she had the difficult task of deciding what should be included and what shouldn’t.

“There are different opinions about what is okay to say outside of the temple,” Amy says. She included only those things that had been published previously in Church magazines and similar publications.

Amy, who was born in Phoenix and raised in Phoenix and Mesa, graduated magna cum laude from Weber State University in 1980. She was a stay-at-home mother, and has been a volunteer Institute instructor for more than 20 years, having taught at Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Tempe Institute (ASU), East Valley Institute and currently is teaching a midsingles class in Phoenix.

She and Steve, her husband of 38 years, have six grandchildren, three who were born this year.

Amy says that although the process took several years, “I feel like the timing is perfect. Publishing the book at this time was the right thing to do.”

She says it has been gratifying to hear from readers that her book is strengthening testimonies and increasing faith and understanding.

“I’ve gotten some really wonderful feedback. It’s so satisfying just to know it’s

helped someone and people have been so delightfully touched by it.”

“I’m just really grateful I had the opportunity to be a part of that in some way,” Amy says.

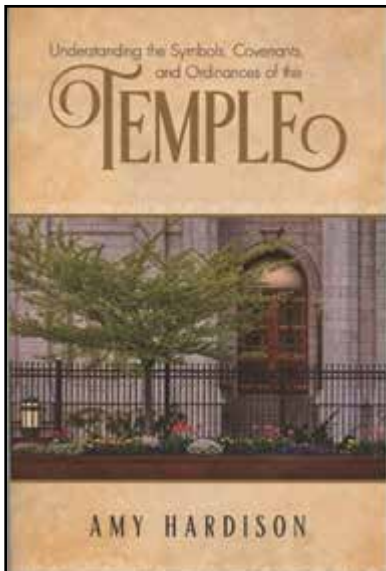


Photo courtesy Amy Hardison

Recently released from Covenant Communications, *Understanding the Symbols, Covenants, and Ordinances of the Temple* is the compilation of decades of study and research by Mesa author Amy Hardison.

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PREP YOUR MISSIONARY

By Allison Beckert
The Beehive

Mission papers sent off? Great! Now what? There are plenty of things you can do to prepare spiritually, physically, emotionally, and financially while waiting for that all-important call packet. Check in with us for tips, tricks, and useful resources for preparing missionaries and their families.

Making Your Missionary Merry

Shipping early is the first tip for sending gifts to missionaries. Once you have the best birthday/Christmas present for your missionary well in advance, how do you get it to them?

Before you pack it all up, make sure what's going in the package doesn't violate shipping restrictions. Check both the domestic and international restricted lists, as some seemingly harmless items are restricted for very good reason. If your missionary needs medications, know they must be shipped by DEA registered distributors. For those favorite treats, candies, or snacks, checking specific rules for shipping food (even shelf-stable items) will help guarantee your package isn't booted right back to you.

International packages require

customs paperwork. Before you decide to gift wrap all those individual gifts, you're going to need to weigh, value, and record each item on the customs forms. This can be a painstaking task. You can pick up and complete forms at your local post office, print them off online and do them by hand, or fill them out online with USPS's online service. Visit www.usps.com, follow the "International" tab and select Complete Customs Forms.

How you choose to pack your presents could mean a huge shipping bill. Whether your missionary is only a few states away or halfway around the world, flat rate shipping boxes could mean \$100 or more difference in the final bill. Sizes and rates for flat-rate boxes can be found on the USPS website as well, and the physical boxes are free! Be sure to allow room for

cushioning fragile items, but you can fit an amazing amount into them. Just be sure they don't surpass the maximum weight limit for the size.

If you're using a packaging method other than the flat-rate options, be aware these come with size and weight-based charges. Kiosks in many USPS locations allow patrons to weigh and measure their shipments without waiting in line, though sticker shock may send parents into a panic. You can enter the information online with the Click-N-Ship system at USPS.com to "weigh" your options with your custom box vs. flat-rate prices.

PACKING TRICKS:

Use soft items or unpack smaller items to act as packing material. This minimizes extra packaging in the limited space of flat rate boxes and helps cushion more fragile items during

shipping.

Concerned about thieves? Abby Miles recalls a trick her mother used to send her sister packages in Brazil: "She would put a picture of the Virgin Mary [a familiar religious icon in heavily Catholic Brazil] and tape it onto the package." This is repeated by many, but some simply opt for making their package as inconspicuous as possible to go unnoticed.

Never hesitate to ask your missionary what they want or need. Some items common at home might be hard to come by in their areas.

Personalized, simple gifts are more meaningful and easier to ship—so don't stress too hard about what to send, but do spend some time considering how to send it safely so that your missionary receives that care package.

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Arizona Launches Professional SOCCER Team

By Allison Beckert
The Beehive

FC Arizona launched their mission to be Arizona's first professional soccer team on August 5th. Soccer fans from around the East Valley flocked to MCC and drew on the enthusiasm and determination of the young franchise's owner, Scott Taylor, as he pledged to them his dedication to the local community and local talent he hopes to draw from.

The event centered on announcements relating to the team. They showcased their seal, done in the tradition of European football clubs with Arizona touches – copper gilding and iconography of the state flag. Their mascot, Rampant the lion, also made an appearance, taking pictures and winning over fans before and after the presentation. The launch party's big topics of interest for attendees were the announcement of their first contracted player and hearing from the head staff how they plan to bring this team to life.

Mesa's Mayor John Giles and John Lewis, East Valley Partnership director and former mayor of Gilbert, lead

the speech making with enthusiastic support. Both mentioned the high performance of amateur players in the schools and in leagues. The emphasis on pride in local talent hit a high point when they announced their first signed player, Andrew Weber. He attended McClintock High School and was goal keeper for the Portland Timbers in 2015 when they won the MLS Cup.

Brother Scott Taylor of Chandler took this dream of an East Valley-based team and is running with it, full-steam, backed with a knowledge of sound business practices and a love of the game's rich traditions. He coached his

son's youth team, watches professional games, and he really grabbed hold of the mission for FC AZ after a visit to Scotland and England. "We really want to focus on the atmosphere of the game," he said, reminiscing on the enthusiasm and local pride he saw at a Dundee v. Aberdeen match.

Coach Aiden Davison, of Durham, England, reinforced the importance of local support. "Clubs like this," he said, "are nothing without community and fans." Of course, they're nothing without good play, either. Using his experience with clubs in England and Ireland, he promised his coaching and the team would stand strong on

three pillar values: "hard work, commitment, and dedication."

Although Coach Davison comes from the classic tradition, FC Arizona is all about drumming up local support and local talent. In Mayor Giles' opening comments, he shared a bit about the "huge interest" in the community for soccer, and how the city is working hard to develop youth and amateur soccer facilities to meet the high demand. Exceptional Arizona players will now have an outlet on the professional level. Those who are interested should keep an eye on the FC AZ website for camps, open tryouts, and open invitational games to help Davison and his coaching staff recruit the best Arizona has to offer.

Games will begin in March 2017, and tickets will start at around \$10. Check out their website for announcements, youth events and leagues, and support club opportunities. FC AZ's current venue is MCC, and the greatest support the community can give is attendance!

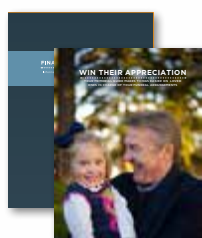


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Tucson Temple

Makes Progress & Blesses Southern Arizona

By Scott Shipley
The Beehive

Latter-day Saint President Thomas S. Monson announced the Tucson Arizona Temple on October 6, 2012, in General Conference. To say that the residents of Southern Arizona were excited to hear the news would be a gross understatement. The temple, located in the lush desert hills north of downtown Tucson, is progressing daily as construction continues.

As stated, residents in Tucson and in the surrounding areas and municipalities are ecstatic, emotional and grateful for its construction. A temple in Tucson has been the result of countless prayers, sacrifices and faith among the Saints residing in the newly-minted temple

district, expected to serve ten stakes in the area.

The temple itself is hard to miss, as it is located on a piece of beautiful desert landscape on one of North Tucson's busiest roads. As is the case with many temples being built worldwide, the construction of the Tucson Temple has created numerous missionary opportunities and has opened a positive dialogue between Latter-day Saints and residents of various faiths within the Southern Arizona region.

President Loren Somerville, Stake President of the Tucson Arizona West Stake, expressed his enthusiasm when he said, "There is a lot of excitement



Photo by Monica Shipley

The newly-mounted Angel Moroni tops the Tucson Arizona Temple.

on what will be done there! There is a great visibility, and many have friends and family, who are not members of the Church, who have been speaking with each other regarding its construction."

The neighborhood in which the Temple is located also has many neighbors curious. Jana Cherrington, a public relations spokesperson for the Church in Southern Arizona, expresses that while "it is unusual to have such a major construction project in a residential area, the neighbors have been patient, and we [the LDS Church] have good relationships with them. They are supportive of the Church, and many are looking forward to attending the open house."

As the construction progresses, positive dialogue will expand between the members and residents, and the increase of missionary opportunities will continue.

The temple is making rapid progress in its construction. Many familiar and exciting stages of this construction are completed every month, one of which was the mounting of the Angel Moroni atop the temple dome.

The golden statue of the Angel

Moroni is a signature of most LDS temples, and this temple's statue was placed atop the Tucson Temple earlier in the summer on July 7. Although the mounting of the Angel Moroni statue is not an official event, the small group who witnessed this special chapter in the Tucson Temple's construction showed great respect and care for every aspect of its creation. In fact, Debbie Weitzell, a regional Church spokesperson, noted that the members of the construction crew "always have a polite and caring attitude" while working on the temple.

It is clear that the Tucson Temple's construction has already blessed residents, church members and Southern Arizona in general.

The dates are not yet scheduled for the Tucson Temple's dedication or open house, although completion is expected sometime in 2017. Volunteer missionaries in the information center can answer additional questions about temples. The Tucson Temple construction site is located in the Catalina Foothills where East Ina Road turns into Skyline Drive.

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92 YEAR OLD Graduates With Her Second Master's Degree and Begins Her Third

Anna Laurene Arnett, 92, graduated on June 4th with a Master of Arts in Creative Non-Fiction from Wilkes University. When asked what that degree is about, Arnett says, "That means you take the facts, and do what you want with them."

Arnett attended Wilkes University's satellite campus in Mesa. Of her program, Arnett says, "I attended their Creative Writing Weekender Program one weekend every seven weeks for a year and a half. They waived the first year because of my prior master's and because I have several books already published."

This is Arnett's second master's degree. She graduated with bachelor's and master's degrees in English and education from Arizona State University in the 1970s.

Arnett is working on her third master's degree. "This one is a Master of Fine Arts involving publications," says Arnett. She is currently in her first class and is preparing for her thesis, after which she intends to earn her PhD.

Arnett says, "I appreciate studying and learning new things. I forget them too, and am getting good at that. My biggest problem is that I only read about as fast as I can talk."

Her daughter provided the inspiration for her second master's degree. "The morning of December 5, 2014, my daughter almost shook her finger in my face and said, 'Mother, I want you to quit fiddling around with your poetry and fiction, and write down every story you can remember about our ancestors, because when you die, these stories will die with you.'"

Arnett's daughter, Kat Ethington, says, "Mom has always been a good storyteller and writer. We all wanted to have the life history of her parents, my grandparents, and Mom has most of it in her memory. She is the only one left of her generation."

Of her mother, Ethington says, "My mom wants to learn about everything and take all kinds of classes. Once she saw an advertisement on TV for a bar-keeping course and she said, 'You know, I want to learn about that too.'"

Arnett credits her success in part to her past writing experience. She says, "I learned most of my writing skills from the ANWA, American Night Writers Association, a group for women writers who are members of

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. However, I learned to be more disciplined during my most recent master's degree."

Anna Laurene Liljenquist was born in 1924 in Rexburg, Idaho. She married Charles Arnett in 1945. Arnett turned 92 on August 30. She has lived in Chandler, in the Gilbert Stapley Stake, since 1980. She and her husband Charles served a mission to Australia during the late 1980s. Arnett is still

active in her ward and serves as the sacrament chorister.

Arnett is the mother of seven children, grandmother of 28, and great-grandmother of nearly 70. She has several books published, including Lolly's Yarns: My Life as I Have Chosen to Live It, her own memoirs about her life with her husband Charles and raising their seven children.

Her second book is a volume of poetry entitled Just a Woman.

"I am in the process of publishing Forever Endeavor, the history of my parents, which I wrote as a memoir for my thesis. I relied heavily on a journal left by my mother."

Arnett's commitment to education and writing talent are two of many blessings she has enjoyed over her long and storied life. "I have a fair amount of good health for my age and feel very blessed by the Lord, and I have chosen to enjoy those blessings," she says.

Kat Arnett Ethington and her mother, 92-year-old Anna Arnett.



Photo courtesy of Kat Arnett Ethington



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Get to Know Glendale!

By Merry Gordon
The Beehive

By Once a quiet farming community that got its economic boom from agriculture and ready water, Glendale is now one of the Valley's fastest-growing areas—and for good reason. Prime location and high entertainment value make it a standout among Phoenix suburbs.

TAKE A TRIP IN TIME

Called the "crown jewel" of Glendale's park system, the 17-acre Sahuaro Ranch Park was home-steaded in the 1880s. A number of original structures from ranching days still stand, including the adobe house, one of the state's earliest, and the charming main house, outfitted with period antiques and open for tours in cooler months. Sahuaro Ranch's rose garden and historic orchards make it a popular backdrop for weddings; wandering chickens and peacocks make it a popular play place for children. The other half of the park is dotted with ramadas, ballfields and playgrounds.

GET YOUR GAME ON

Glendale's got game! Hockey aficionados know that the city has been home to the Arizona Coyotes since 1996, and football fans boast the multi-million dollar University of Phoenix Stadium, home base for the Arizona Cardinals and host to major sporting events such as the Fiesta Bowl, two Super Bowls, the Pro Bowl and the Copa América Centenario—it will also see the NCAA Final Four in 2017. If baseball is more your thing, the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago White Sox call Glendale home every year for spring training.

FIND A FESTIVAL

Glendale is also home to a number of signature festivals. Top among them is the month-long Glendale Glitters, a series of weekend holiday extravaganzas lit by 1.5 million lights. Children come to revel in the snow play area and petting zoo, and adults stay to shop for handcrafted gifts and sample local food.

February gets a little sweeter in Glendale with the Chocolate Affaire, a gathering of all things chocolate presented by Glendale's own Cerreta Candy Company. With delicacies like deep-fried chocolate-covered bacon and traditional faves like chocolate-dipped strawberries, you can't go wrong.

TAKE FLIGHT

Glendale's friendly skies have made it something of a West Valley aviation hub. Luke Air Force Base has been a fixture since 1940, and it's not uncommon to see people parked on the side of empty fields during training to hear the roar of the afterburner and watch jets take off and land. But Glendale is also a mecca for civilian aviation—the Glendale Municipal Airport fields air traffic big and small in the area. If you're looking to get your wings, look no further than Arizona Flight Training Center, Aerosim Aviation or Angel Aviation to help get you in the cockpit.

BE AMUSED

Westgate Entertainment District, anchored by two stadiums and a nearby outlet center, offers world-class fun. With its water features, movie theatre and several restaurants, there's something for everyone. The addition of As You Wish Pottery Painting Place and Dave & Buster's make it a go-to destination on its own, let alone as a dinner stopover on the way to a game. Come on weekends for live local music and feel the vibe of the "Times Square of the West"!



Glendale Glitter and Glow is one of many local festivals hosted by the city. The holiday celebration is always a popular draw.
Photo by Sweet Evie / CC BY via flickr



Glendale's own University of Phoenix Stadium hosts major sporting events throughout the year, making the Westgate district a popular destination.
Photo by Ken Lund / CC BY via flickr

Kimball East Stake hosts First Annual INTERFAITH COMMUNITY Cultural Event

By Kathi Ogden
The Beehive

The First Annual Interfaith Community Cultural Event was held recently on Saturday, July 23rd, at the Kimball East Stake building. The theme for the event was Our Global Neighborhood: Celebrating our Diversity and Serving our World, One Neighbor at a Time.

"We homeschool our children and, along with some other local home-schooling parents, have been holding a geography fair for about the past five years," says organizer Carrie Mason of the Windsor Ward, Kimball East Stake. "Each family would pick their own site and then tell what they learned, about the people, the culture, the food, and the agriculture. This time, I kept feeling inspired to also reach out to someone who works with refugees."

She contacted Hailey Smith of Lifting Hands, Gul Siddiqi, the Arizona Area Coordinator for Helping Hand for Relief and Development, and Arian Hatch, with Goods For Good.

"From day one the event just took

off. It kept getting bigger and bigger. Our personal event was now turning into a community event. We realized that people are hungry for service opportunities," says Sister Mason. "People I didn't even know were calling to help. They were asking me questions like, 'How can I help? How can I get my family and children involved?'"

After talking with KES Stake Relief Society President Jill Adair and Curtis Clouse, a counselor in the Kimball East Stake presidency, it was decided to move the occasion to the larger building at the stake center and it became the First Annual Interfaith Community Cultural Event.

Most of the twelve display tables held food items to sample from over a dozen countries. Also offered were half a dozen dance performances, a table where attendees could decorate birthday cards for displaced children in the Save the Family organization, and even a class on how to reach out to our neighbors and the community, entitled



The Maschino School of Highland Dance.

Photo by Carri Mason

"The Art of Neighboring." In keeping with the geography theme, there were game tables for the children such as Geography Bingo, plus cultural- and geography-themed coloring pages like flags, neighborhood maps and the art of Pablo Picasso.

"Sometimes it's hard to go out in the community and get involved," says Sister Mason. "This shows what can be accomplished when we come together. People from many faiths attended. Invitations were sent to Mayor John Giles and Councilmember Kevin Thompson, who also attended. I got wonderful feedback comments, such as, 'Great ideas!', 'Awesome sense of community' and 'so many ways to serve others!'"

"It's one example of the good things that can be done when we seek to serve," says Sister Adair. "While our

national conversation about refugees has become politicized, our Church leaders have specifically asked us not to make it political but to heed the call to love and serve our neighbors and to care for the poor and needy, whoever they are or wherever they may be. The recent cultural event held at our stake center is a great example of heeding that call. The 'I Was a Stranger' initiative's focus is an invitation for members to seek personal inspiration on how they can help, according to their individual circumstances. When Sister Mason felt inspired to plan this event, I believe she followed that principle."

For more information on how to help with next year's Interfaith Community Cultural Event, or the other organizations, contact Sister Carri Mason at carrimason@hotmail.com.

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Cultivating Community & SELF-RELIANCE in Cibecue

By Emily Boyle
The Beehive

Growing up in Cibecue on the White Mountain Apache Reservation, Stevie Case often helped his great-grandmother tend her garden. She grew squash, corn, tomatoes and wild spinach. This year, with the help of a garden project supported by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Brother Case, of the Cibecue Branch in the Show Low Stake, has a garden of his own for the first time. He also has a shade house nearby for his great-grandmother to sit under and admire the onions (as big as softballs), watermelon, tomatoes, potatoes, summer and winter squash, carrots, beans and corn.

What would he like to learn next? How to make special dishes with vegetables he is growing, he says.

For Brother Case, the garden has given him a gift. He says, "It's give me new perspective about caring for something. It's special. It needs love. I always tend the garden. I live in a tough neighborhood, but people compliment my garden. I offer something as they pass by or invite them to harvest some of it. It's special to be able to give back to the community."

Earlier this year, Elder and Sister Jex, Member and Leader Support missionaries serving in the Show Low Stake, read an article in the news about successful Church-sponsored family gardens on the Navajo

Nation. They thought, "That would work here." They began reaching out to local leaders as well as Church headquarters. It didn't take long before the project came together. Supplies arrived from Salt Lake City (fencing materials, water drip system and heirloom seeds), and help was offered by missionaries from the Navajo Nation and Scottsdale Mission, by Show Low Stake President Steve Williams, by Cecil Ivins, Cibecue Branch President, and by master gardeners Dave and Mari Burgess.

This summer in Cibecue, eight gardens have been tilled, planted and weeded. These days, the harvest is truly great. One of these gardens was planted in early July at the alcohol treatment facility in the village. The garden offers a positive diversion from addictive behaviors.

Brother Burgess offered and continues to offer countless hours of effort and technical knowledge about proper fencing techniques and making seed beds. He smiles as he pictures Elder Jex, a retired podiatrist, and Sister Jex as they teach families about gardening, help families decide on seeds, and assist them in preparing to plant. The Jexes have enjoyed working shoulder to shoulder with members of the community.



Photo courtesy of Kay Jex

Rico Ivins, Cibecue Branch, stands in the corn patch of his grandparents' garden, one of eight gardens started this year under the Church-sponsored family garden project.

On a recent visit to the Navajo Nation, General Authorities from the Church applauded the efforts of the garden project by offering classes and a demonstration garden to help educate families with hands-on experience, helping members and neighbors realize greater self-reliance. Brother Burgess hopes in time, such enrichment opportunities will also be available in the community of Cibecue.

Brother Case finds peace in his garden and knows that it's better than being inside watching television. He didn't think the potatoes would grow from the little triangle of a potato start, but they did. He has learned so much. Thanks to the garden project, he says, he is excited for the future.

When asked what he'd tell someone considering growing their own garden he says, "It's a whole new experience. You should try it!"

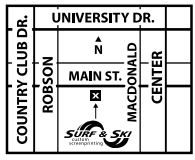
For more information about the family garden project, visit lds.org.

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Gilbert Mayor Jenn Daniels is DRIVEN TO DO GOOD

By Robin Finlinson
The Beehive

Growing up in California, Gilbert's new mayor, Jenn Daniels, attended church each week in quite a special place: on the grounds of the Oakland Temple. "That was a great influence on me as a youth," she recalls. Several wards, including Tongan, Samoan, Korean and Spanish-speaking congregations met there in a regional center. Sister Daniels loved being surrounded by the variety of cultures.

At age 21, she married Eric Daniels of Mesa, knowing they'd live in Arizona, though "I would have followed him anywhere," she says. Now in the Constellation Ward of the Highland West Stake, Daniels is happy to be raising her children in Gilbert, a community full of opportunity that shares her values.

One of those values is education. The public school district has a 90% graduation rate. Determined to finish her own degree in Humanities at BYU, Daniels did so after she was married. Her four children are each limited to one activity outside of school and church programs to have time for studying. Their activities currently include singing with the Millennial Choirs & Orchestras, jujitsu, creative arts and tumbling.

Daniels is often asked how she balances her responsibilities. "Balance is a total and complete fallacy," she says, since it implies absolute perfection. "So I try to focus on being where my feet are. Wherever I am, I try to do something successfully." She can't wear her mayor's hat, for instance, when helping a child with homework, but she recognizes

when it's time to have it on.

Her drive for accomplishment and making a positive difference comes in part from the influence of her industrious parents. Her father was a talented tool and die maker. Her mother taught kindergarten and 1st grade and was always "anxiously engaged in a good cause." Daniels was also inspired by the incredible women she worked with at United Families International, who expanded their sphere of influence through non-profit work.

"When we stretch our personal capacity and are going about doing good, our Heavenly Father increases that capacity even more," says Daniels. She adds that when surrounded by people opposing our principles, we

ought to recall the prophet Elisha's encouraging words: "[T]hey that be with us are more than they that be with them" (2nd Kings 6:16).

She has served on the Gilbert Town Council since 2009. In the last five years, Gilbert has received many awards, including "2nd Safest City in the United States." Their long list of accolades can be seen at www.gilbertaz.gov. After generations of competent leadership, Daniels feels privileged to now be mayor.

She endeavors to stay connected to her constituents -- aware of their challenges and their vision for improvements. She is focused on bringing people of different faiths and backgrounds together through their com-



Robin Finlinson
Mayor Jenn Daniels of Gilbert prioritizes education both in her family and in her career.

mon values to strengthen faith groups, neighborhoods and education.



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Local Family Fun! Five Great Activities for Under \$25 Per Person!

By Merry Gordon
The Beehive

We all know that carving out time for family bonding is essential. Luckily, having fun doesn't have to break the bank! So put down the remote and step away from the cell phone...if "play hard" and "save big" are both on your to-do list, these boredom busters are a guaranteed good time for everyone.

#2 Get Crafty

Every second Monday, Chandler's Gang-plank collaborative workspace hosts CraftHack, an open house collective where you can bring your own arts and craft project, learn and teach others, and be inspired by your local arts community. From drawing to textile art, get insider tips not only on how to create, but how to best market your work.

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#3 Have a "Capitol" Time

The copper-domed Arizona Capitol Museum houses a piece of the USS Arizona, sunk during the Pearl Harbor invasion, the 1898 Rough Rider flag that Arizonans took to the field in the Spanish-American War, and the restored 1910 House Chamber. Learn about voting, the journey from territory to statehood and the many roles Arizona has played in the nation's history.

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Deciphering the Ciphers: READING OLD HANDWRITING

By Valerie Ipson
The Beehive

Is that a d or a b? An M, or an N, or maybe a W?

Just when you thought there was no need for cursive in our tech-savvy computer age, you're faced with an ancestor's cryptic census entry or a marriage record to index that appears to be all sweeping flourishes.

Family historians thrill over every document chronicling their relatives' lives, but if the handwriting isn't legible it soon becomes a frustrating guessing game. And indexers might give up altogether, or determine to choose batches of typed documents only.

When we sit down at our computer screen, we find ourselves at the mercy of every census-taker and court recorder in history, even after 1850 when the handwriting should be familiar, according to BYU's Center for Family History and Genealogy.

They submit, "If you conduct research in documents produced since 1850, many of the letter forms will be familiar, if not precisely like today's letter forms. But as you move back in time, the letters grow increasingly foreign, even in your native language. It is at this point that you

need the skill of a paleographer."

"Paleography," they define, "is the study and interpretation of ancient or old handwriting and manuscripts. It is part art, part science, part puzzle-solving, and part decoding."

Fortunately, there's help for the amateur paleographer.

Remember that it's easy to make the mistake of focusing too much on the word that's giving us trouble. The key is to broaden our attention to the context surrounding the word. Now we can begin comparing the word in question with what else this particular scribe has written. Common words and surnames will be more easily read, and once

we've figured out how a capital S or a capital F was written, for example, we can apply that understanding to other more difficult script.

Also, it's important to remember that much of the old writing is "phonetic."

Recorders wrote the name the best they could by how it sounded.

Google 'reading old handwriting' and myriad sources pop up. Both FamilySearch and Ancestry have long lists of tips, techniques, and tutorials on the subject. On FamilySearch, click on 'Search' to access the Wiki; for Ancestry, go to Ancestry.com/wiki.

These helps aren't just for English either, but for a wide variety of languages.

FamilyTreeWebinars.com is offering a free online class titled, "AHA! Analysis of Handwriting for Genealogical Research." It will be presented on October 5th and all a participant needs is the internet and speakers. Register at www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com.

And, finally, BYU's Family History site offers an online Script Tutorial at <https://script.byu.edu/Pages/choices>.

Family historians and indexers need not fear the cursed cursive handwriting of yesteryear anymore.



Photo by Valerie Ipson
Copy of the 1920 U.S. Census for Nebraska

Family

HISTORY

Mormons in Business

Promotional Feature

Local Dentist Shares His Skills with Those at Home and Abroad

By Stephanie Abney
The Beehive



Photo Courtesy of David Ericksen

David Erickson, DDS, saw patients in Nepal on a humanitarian trip.

When David R. Ericksen, DDS, opened his dental office six years ago he wanted to establish a family practice. He is passionate about patient education and bringing dental services to those in need, including those in other countries, through his humanitarian trips. He has traveled to Guatemala, Bolivia, Nepal and Mexico, donating his services.

Ericksen Family Dental sees patients from three years old up to 103 years old. The office offers a wide range of services, including, pediatric, emergency, and cosmetic dentistry, as well as cleanings, implants, and teeth whitening. His caring staff includes his wife, Cassandra, who is his office manager.

David and Cassandra have roots in Arizona and have been married for two and a half years. They reside in the Tempe Arizona Stake. Cassandra is fluent in Spanish and skilled in the dental operatory. She travels with and assists David on their humanitarian trips.

When the Ericksens go to Guatemala, Bolivia, and Nepal, they work with a group out of Salt Lake City called Choice Humanitarian, generally spending two weeks per excursion. These trips are self-funded. Dr. Ericksen brings his own supplies, equipment, medications and hand instruments. They work in portable dental units and focus on getting people out of pain. In most instances that involves the surgical extraction of teeth that are beyond repair. Their work also includes doing fillings and restorative care, where possible.

They go to remote villages where they sleep in tents. One week they saw patients in three additional villages, many needing extensive care. That week more than 200 people were seen and 500 teeth extracted. David strives to educate the people in proper dental hygiene and preventative care. He loves to teach and has a background in education. Before going to dental school, he taught chemistry at Arizona

State University.

“The physical need and suffering in these rural communities is great,” says David. “Coming from a land of plenty with modern conveniences, it’s remarkable to note the contrast between their physical health needs and the health of their hearts. This is most obvious to me when I hear the villagers greet us in their language, ‘Ma’ sa’ la chool,’ which means, ‘Is there happiness in your heart?’ Their focus is clear. They know what life is all about.”

Weekend humanitarian trips to Mexico involve Dr. Ericksen’s entire staff. These trips are organized by a group called The Flying Samaritans. Although he is able to work out of a modern clinic when in Mexico, he still brings his own medicines and supplies and leaves extras behind.

Ericksen Family Dental is located at 1010 E. University Dr., Mesa, AZ 85203. Their number is 480-644-7777. More information can be found at their website: www.EricksenDental.com

How to Start **WRITING** Your Life Story (Part I)

By Ann Barnes
The Beehive

How many times have you sat down with pen and notepad or fingers to the keyboard determined to begin writing your life story? You may have even made an outline or written a few pages. Before long, you’re feeling stuck—so you give up. Please know that you aren’t alone! This three-part series, beginning with roadblocks to writing, will get you started down the right path.

There are many reasons people don’t write their life stories. Some of the most common are:

My life isn’t interesting. What does “interesting” mean? Does it mean that you weren’t the homecoming queen or the star quarterback, or you never had your name in lights? Is your life less interesting because you grew up on

a potato farm, became a teacher or a secretary, lived in the low-rent district, were a stay-at-home mom, ended up a single mom or dad, or survived cancer? Many people connect to the same stories we see as mundane and ordinary. There’s something to the old adage: “Write what you know!”

I don’t want to share. Everyone has done something or had something happen to them they don’t want to share. Luckily, it isn’t necessary to write every about event of your life. At the same time, you don’t want your story to be a fairy-tale where everyone lives happily ever after. Try to find a balance.

I don’t want to upset someone by what I write. A life story isn’t written for the sake of criticizing someone, and it is inappropriate to do so. Be tact-

ful even when you are writing about your drill sergeant mother, workaholic father, or a sibling who treated you like dirt.

I haven’t done anything worth writing about. This kind of goes along with the “my life isn’t interesting” belief. So you’ve never gone to Europe, and probably never will. What about family vacations, family traditions, school days? Have you sat by someone’s side and held their hand during the last moments of their life? Have you been a caregiver? Been on a genealogy trip? Rafted down the Colorado River? Been in a hurricane? Start with your most vivid memory.

I’m overwhelmed and don’t know where to start. A little planning, such as making an outline or doing some



Writing your life story can be a fun way to connect with your past.

mind-mapping, will help make the job easier and more enjoyable. Either one helps you feel more organized and less overwhelmed.

I’m not sure how it should be written. The important thing is that it is written. Whether a story is in a collection of letters, journals, or a life story handwritten on a legal pad or using the latest software, the goal is the same.

I’m not a real writer. Very few of us are. If you can write a letter or email, write a talk or make a Power Point presentation, you can write your story!

Next time: Getting your thoughts out of your head and down on paper.

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MESA - CANTERBURY PLACE
CUSTOM HOME, FULLY REMODELED, LOCATED ON OVER A HALF ACRE IRRIGATED LOT IN DESIRABLE NORTH MESA WITH NO HOA! 3639^{SQ.FT.} FEATURES 4BED/4BATH, DEN, FORMAL LIVING & DINING ROOMS. INCREDIBLE DESIGNER TOUCHES THROUGHT. RESORT STYLE GROUNDS WITH POOL, OUTDOOR KITCHEN, PIZZA OVEN, & DETACHED COTTAGE. OFFERED AT \$649,900



GILBERT - JAKES RANCH
2498 SQ.FT. 4 BED/3 BATH HOME WITH GREAT ROOM CONCEPT. PREMIUM LOT WITH POOL. HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER GATED COMMUNITY! OFFERED AT \$369,000.



MESA - GLENNWOOD GARDENS
1256 SQ.FT. 3 BED/2 BATH HOME FEATURES SPACIOUS KITCHEN & FAMILY ROOM. PRIVATE OVERSIZED BACKYARD WITH SHED. OFFERED AT \$194,900.



GILBERT - CIRCLE G AT OCOTILLO
5308 SQ.FT. 4 BED/4.5 BATHS, OFFICE, & FORMAL LIVING/DINING. NEARLY AN ACRE LOT WITH POOL & SWIM-UP RAMADA BAR. OFFERED AT \$898,000.



NUTRIOSO, AZ
FOUR 8.5+/- ACRE PARCELS EACH WITH A PRIVATE WELL. LOCATED IN A BREATHTAKING MEADOW WITH LARGE PINES. WALKING DISTANCE TO NATIONAL FOREST. CALL FOR MORE DETAILS.



ALPINE, AZ - 27+/- ACRES
2 SPRINGS & 2 PONDS TUCKED IN A HEAVILY TREED MOUNTAIN VALLEY. NATIONAL FOREST ON TWO SIDES. ALL UTILITIES AVAILABLE. CALL FOR MORE DETAILS.



TEMPE - WESTCHESTER ESTATES
3418 SQ.FT. 4 BED/3 BATH, FORMAL LIVING & DINING, OFFICE, & BONUS ROOM. REMODELED KITCHEN, POOL, AC STORAGE ROOM W/ CELLAR. OFFERED AT \$474,900



PENNY GOULD
DIRECT: (480) 600-3663
PENNYGOULD@COX.NET



SHANNON VOWLES
DIRECT: (480) 766-1246
SHANNONVOWLES@COX.NET



WWW.THEGOULDGROUP.ORG
EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

